

Permit for Scientific Purposes Application

A. Title

Application for Permit for Scientific Purposes under Section the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (field surveys).

Project Name

Presence/absence surveys for the protection of salmonid species that occur in waterbodies crossed by or adjacent to the state transportation systems.

B. Species:

CR Chum ESU	Natural
CR Chum ESU	Artificially Propagated
HC Summer Chum ESU	Natural
HC Summer Chum ESU	Artificially Propagated
LCR Chinook ESU	Natural
LCR Chinook ESU	Artificially Propagated
LCR Coho ESU	Natural
LCR Coho ESU	Artificially Propagated
LCR Steelhead DPS	Natural
LCR Steelhead DPS	Artificially Propagated
MCR Steelhead DPS	Natural
MCR Steelhead DPS	Artificially Propagated
Ozette Lake Sockeye ESU	Natural
Ozette Lake Sockeye ESU	Artificially Propagated
PS Chinook ESU	Natural
PS Chinook ESU	Artificially Propagated
PS Steelhead DPS (Proposed Threatened)	Natural
PS Steelhead DPS (Proposed Threatened)	Artificially Propagated
SR Fall Chinook ESU	Natural
SR Fall Chinook ESU	Artificially Propagated
SR Sockeye ESU	Natural
SR Sockeye ESU	Artificially Propagated
SR Spring/Summer Chinook ESU	Natural
SR Spring/Summer Chinook ESU	Artificially Propagated
SR Steelhead DPS	Natural
SR Steelhead DPS	Artificially Propagated
UCR Spring Chinook ESU	Artificially Propagated
UCR Spring Chinook ESU	Natural
UCR Steelhead DPS	Natural
UCR Steelhead DPS	Artificially Propagated

C. Date of Permit Application:
December 18, 2006

D. Applicant Identity:

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E. Information on Personnel, Cooperators, and Sponsors:

1. The following people will all act as field supervisors during surveys.

Last	First	Region	Phone	Email
Bigler	Brian	NW	206.440.4519	biglerb@wsdot.wa.gov
Broadhead	Craig	SC	509-577-1751	broadhc@wsot.wa.gov
Chestnut	Tara	OR	360.570.6739	chestnt@wsdot.wa.gov
Cornwall	Mark	NW	206.440.4523	cornwam@wsdot.wa.gov
Davis	Gary	NW	360.440.4533	davisg@wsdot.wa.gov
Fredericks	Kristen	NW	360.757.5998	frederk@wsdot.wa.gov
Gower	Eric	OR	360.570.6709	gowere@wsdot.wa.gov
Gray	Geoff	SC	509.577.1756	grayg@wsdot.wa.gov
Guay	Michelle	SW	360.905.2186	guaym@wsdot.wa.gov
Hancock	LeeAnn	ER	509.324.6137	hancocl@wsdot.wa.gov
Johnson	Colleen	NW	206.440.4902	johnsco@wsdot.wa.gov
McQuery	Patricia	HQ	360-570-6645	mcqueap@wsdot.wa.gov
Sandberg	Randy	NW	206.440.4606	sandbr@wsdot.wa.gov
Vecht	Sharon	HQ	360.705.7254	vechts@wsdot.wa.gov
Ward	Carl	OR	360.570.6706	wardc@wsdot.wa.gov

2. The following people will act as field personnel during surveys.

Last	First	Region	Phone	Email
Acosta	Beth	NW	360-757-5996	acostab@wsdot.wa.gov
Beall	Jodie	OR	360-570-6708	beallj@wsdot.wa.gov
Britton	Erin	HQ	360.704.7445	brittoe@wsdot.wa.gov
Carey	Marion	HQ	360-705-7404	careym@wsdot.wa.gov
Fursman	Victoria	HQ	360.705.6963	fursmv@wsdot.wa.gov
Haffie	Angie	SW	360 905-2176	HaffieA@wsdot.wa.gov
Hagedorn	Melissa	NW	206-440-4516	HagedoM@wsdot.wa.gov
Johnson	Colleen	NW	206.440.4902	johnsco@wsdot.wa.gov
Kohl	Tom	SW	360 905-2183	kohlt@wsdot.wa.gov
Koller	Erv	ER	509 324-6133	KollerE@wsdot.wa.gov
MacDonald	Michael	NW	206-440-4909	MacDonM@wsdot.wa.gov
Miller	Trina	NW	206-440-4901	MilleTR@wsdot.wa.gov
Petersen	Cory	NW	206-440-4508	RuedebC@wsdot.wa.gov
Ritchotte	George	UCO	206-464-1210	RitchoG@wsdot.wa.gov
Schlatter	Ken	OR	360-570-6707	schlatk@wsdot.wa.gov
Shannon	Scott	OR	360-570-6768	Shannos@wsdot.wa.gov
Steinmetz	Michelle	UCO	206.464.1228	steinmi@wsdot.wa.gov
Taylor	Trevin	HLP	360-705-6975	TaylorT@wsdot.wa.gov
Thomas	Rob	SC	509-577-1756	thomasr@wsdot.wa.gov
Wisen	Matt	NC	509.667.3021	misenm@wsdot.wa.gov

3. There are no applicable sponsors or cooperating agencies.
4. It is not expected that a contractor will conduct WSDOT presence/absence survey work. However, in the event that a contractor is required, a qualified field supervisor listed in E(1) above will be present during activities.
5. Samples will not be collected. All species will be identified on-site and immediately returned to the water. Unintentional mortality of listed fish will be left at the capture site.
6. WSDOT will not transport or long-term contain or hold species observed, captured or handled during surveys.

F. Project Description, Purpose, and Significance:

1. The purpose of the permit is to allow WSDOT to complete presence/absence surveys for anadromous fish species in waterbodies crossed by or adjacent to the state transportation systems (highways, railroads, and/or airports). Surveys may be conducted prior to proposed projects within or near waterbodies statewide. The surveys would help establish absence or presence within waterbodies where limited information currently exists.

Information attained during surveys will be used to assess possible impacts to ESA-listed species from proposed projects. Species specific information and established presence/absence information will enable WSDOT to implement timing restrictions for in-water work and best management practices designed to minimize impacts to species that are present within the waterbodies.

2. The proposed surveys are not in direct response to a federal agency request or requirement. However, information from presence/absence surveys conducted by WSDOT will be associated with identifying impacts to listed species from proposed projects and information will be described in documents prepared as a result of ESA requirements. For many of the projects, federal funding or federal permitting requires assessment of impacts to species and information attained during surveys would be used to aid in these assessments.
3. In a broader scheme, existing data on locations of listed species and presence in streams is limited, particularly in regard to rearing areas. Presence/absence surveys conducted by WSDOT could provide valuable location data for multiple agencies and assist in the long-term protection of listed species. Information attained will be used to help complete projects that remove fish barriers, which will ultimately benefit listed species. As well, information attained during WSDOT surveys could further benefit resource agencies by supplying additional knowledge of stream usage and habitats of listed species.

4. There are no similar programs, projects or studies conducted by WSDOT at this time.
5. Presence/absence surveys would not specifically be directed at only ESA-listed species, but would also identify presence of other species. Trapping and netting surveys may inadvertently result in the capture of listed species. The justification of conducting presence/absence surveys is to increase the knowledge base of species distributions. This knowledge will allow WSDOT to design and construct future transportation projects in a manner that minimizes impacts to listed species and suitable habitat.

G. Project Methodology:

1. Surveys will be conducted on an as needed basis and associated with specific project proposals. It is expected that 2-3 surveys could be conducted each year. This estimate is based on the number of past surveys conducted during WSDOT's 2002-2006 permit (Scientific Collection Permit #1252, Consultation #2005/06343). WSDOT requests the permit from January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2011.
2. Survey methods will be dependent on the size of the stream system and may include: snorkel surveys, netting though the use of dip nets, stick seine, baited gee minnow traps and electrofishing. Sampling, with the exception of the baited minnow traps, shall be short duration, intensive netting of pools and riffles. Fish shall be captured, identified and released and shall not be removed from the water unless absolutely necessary. Baited minnow traps may be placed in the system for up to a week at a time, with traps checked daily. In rare cases, electro-fishing may be used. In these cases, electro-fishing will only be conducted during seasonal periods when presence of adult salmonids is highly unlikely due to life history traits. No intrusive methods will be used (anesthetic, tagging, fin clips, marking, etc.).
 - a. WSDOT will only utilized non-intrusive methods such as nets, seines, dip nets, visual observation, snorkel surveys, etc. In the rare event that electro-fishing is necessary, WSDOT will follow the 2000 NOAA fisheries Guidelines for Electrofishing Waters Containing Salmonids listed Under the Endangered Species Act. All equipment will be in good working order and all personnel properly trained. Fish will only be held long enough to identify species and immediately released.
 - b. Surveys will be conducted as needed to determine presence or absence of species within waterbodies. Activities could occur within any previously un-surveyed waterbody in Washington State associated with or adjacent to a state transportation system. It is unknown which systems or schedules this may entail at this time.

- c. WSDOT conducted surveys will not include tagging of any means.
 - d. Drugs and anesthetics will not be used during survey activities.
 - e. Fish will be held long enough to identify the species, typically less than 3 minutes.
 - f. WSDOT will not collect intrusive samples of species including tissue, individuals, scales or any other samples. Photographs may occasionally be taken.
3. Although simple visual observation would limit impacts to listed species and is described as a potential survey technique, methods of capture will be the primary techniques used during surveys. Simple visual observation does not allow adequate species identification.
 4. There is a low probability of animals being injured with snorkel surveys, net surveys, or seine surveys. To minimize potential for injury, animals will not be removed from the water during net or trap sampling. There is a slightly higher probability of injury with electrofishing surveys and as such all electrofishing activities will be conducted by highly trained individuals and NOAA electrofishing guidelines will be followed. Electrofishing will occur during seasonal periods when adult salmonid presence is unlikely.

H. Description and Estimates of Take.

The following table contains a list of ESA-listed species that may be encountered during presence/absence surveys. WSDOT does not know how many individuals will be taken during survey activities since sites will only be surveyed if there is not existing data regarding salmonid presence within the waterbody. However, based on results of previous year's surveys, the number of fish handled each year (non-listed and listed) during those surveys and our existing permitted allowances (Permit #1252), WSDOT requests the following take numbers.

Annual take numbers requested per Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) or Distinct Population Segment (DPS). Estimates are for all life stages that could be taken annually between January and December of each permitted year.

Listed ESU/DPS	Origin	Take Activity	# of Fish Requested	Requested Unintentional Mortality
CR Chum ESU <i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	30	1/30
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	30	1/30
HC Summer Chum ESU <i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	4	1/4
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	8	1/8
LCR Chinook ESU <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	6	1/6
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	12	1/12
UCR Chinook ESU <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	13	1/13
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	21	1/21
SR Fall Chinook ESU <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	5	1/5
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
SR Spring/Summer Chinook ESU <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	5	1/5
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
PS Chinook ESU <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	22	1/22
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	48	2/48
LCR Coho ESU <i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	30	1/30
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	30	1/30
Ozette Lake Sockeye ESU <i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	5	1/5
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
SR Sockeye ESU <i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	5	1/5
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
LCR Steelhead DPS <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	5	1/5
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
MCR Steelhead DPS <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	11	1/11
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	22	1/22
UCR Steelhead DPS <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	20	1/20
SR Steelhead DPS <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	10	1/10
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	20	1/20
PS Steelhead DPS (Proposed) <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Natural	Capture, handle, release	22	1/22
	Artificially Propagated	Capture, handle, release	44	2/44

1. WSDOT does not have specific trend and status data for streams or waterbodies that may be surveyed under this permit. Based on past use of this permit, survey activities have been conducted in streams with minimal to no information on species presence and distribution. Typically, these streams have been highly degraded and surveys have resulted in no listed fish presence. It is expected that all survey activities conducted under this permit would be similar. The objective of the surveys would be to provide information on species presence within state waterbodies.
2. Direct take of listed species is not anticipated. All take during survey work would be unintentional. Non-lethal methods for surveying will be used at all times. Electrofishing activities will not be used during seasonal presence of adult salmonids. However, there is a small potential for unintentional mortality of juveniles during electrofishing.
3. The requested number of fish that could be taken was determined using WSDOT's existing permit (#1252) and the expected potential for encountering listed species. The numbers indicate the potential to harass or disturb individuals during netting, snorkeling or other survey methods. WSDOT requests unintentional mortality numbers of 1-3 for each species per permitted year. These are expected to be conservative estimates of mortality given the survey methods that will be used.
4. Bull trout or other USFWS listed species would be expected to be affected by survey activities similarly to what has been described in this application for NOAA listed species. Currently, WSDOT has authority to conduct survey activities under a Section 10(a)1(A) permit with USFWS (permit # TE-025731-3 (01/12/2005-01/11/2009)).

I. Transportation and Holding

1. Transportation of a Listed Species.

WSDOT will not transport listed species.

2. Holding of a Listed Species.

Species will be held at the survey site for three minutes or less during identification. Individuals will be returned to the site upon identification. Description of holding facilities in rest of this section are not applicable.

3. Emergency Contingencies.

There are no emergency contingencies planned. Fish will be released within three minutes of capture and identification to minimize impacts.

J. Cooperative Breeding Program:

WSDOT will not keep or hold individuals. However, we will share any data collected during survey activities with interested agencies.

K. Previous or Concurrent Activities Involving Listed Species:

1. WSDOT currently holds NOAA 10(a)(1)(A) Scientific research permit #1252
Expires: December 31, 2006
Issued to: Washington State Department of Transportation
Permit Holder: Paul Wagner
Species Covered: CR Chum (Natural), HC Chum (Natural), LCR Steelhead (Natural), MCR Steelhead (Natural), UCR Steelhead (Natural), LCR Coho (Natural), UCR Chinook (Natural and Artificially Propagated), LCR Chinook (Natural and Artificially Propagated), PS Chinook (Natural and Artificially Propagated)

WSDOT currently holds USFWS 10(a)(1)(A) TE-025731-3
Expires: January 11, 2009
Issued to: Washington State Department of Transportation
Permit Holder: Paul Wagner
Species Covered: Bull trout

2. WSDOT has conducted five presence/absence surveys under Permit # 1252 between 2002 and December 2006 in King, Lewis and Thurston Counties. Non-listed fish were handled or observed during three of these surveys. No fish were observed during the other two surveys. At this time, WSDOT has not had an ESA-listed mortality associated with presence/absence surveys.

L. Certification:

"I hereby certify that the foregoing information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand this information is submitted for the purpose of obtaining a permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) and regulations promulgated thereunder, and that any false statement may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001, or to penalties under the ESA."

Signature

Date

Name and Position Title (print)

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Attach résumés here or submit it/them as a separate document.

M. Length of Time and Cost to Prepare Application (Optional):

- 1.** ~20
- 2.** Please estimate the cost, in \$US, of compiling this application, excluding the labor hours identified in 1. above. This estimate should include: cost of paper, printing, mailing, photocopying, etc.